Non-Resident Tuition Exemption for Students Receiving Federal Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program Benefits

SECTION 1. Section 68075.7 of the Education Code is amended to read:

68075.7. Notwithstanding any other law:

- (a) Effective for academic terms beginning after July 1, 2017, 2019, a student enrolled at a campus of the California Community Colleges or the California State University who meets all of the following requirements shall be exempt from paying nonresident tuition or any other fee that is exclusively applicable to nonresident students:
- (1) The student resides in California.
- (2) The student meets the definition of "covered individual," as that term is defined in either of the following: Section 3679(c)(2) of Title 38 of the United States Code.
- (A) Section 3679(c)(2)(A) or (B)(ii)(I) of Title 38 of the United States Code, as that provision read on January 1, 2017.
- (B) Section 3679(c)(2)(B)(i) or (ii)(II) of Title 38 of the United States Code, as that provision read on January 1, 2017.
- (3) The student is eligible for education benefits under either the federal Montgomery GI Bill–Active Duty program (Chapter 30 (commencing with Section 3001) of Title 38 of the United States Code), the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program (Chapter 31 (commencing with 3100) of Title 38 of the United States Code), or the Post-9/11 GI Bill program (Chapter 33 (commencing with Section 3301) of Title 38 of the United States Code), as each read on January 1, 2017. 2019.
- (b) After the expiration of the three-year period following discharge as described in Section 3679(c)(2)(A) or (B)(ii)(I) of Title 38 of the United States Code, a student who qualifies for an exemption from paying nonresident tuition and other applicable fees under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) shall be deemed to maintain "covered individual" status as long as the student remains continuously enrolled at a campus, even if the student enrolls in multiple programs, and the student shall continue to be exempt from paying nonresident tuition and other fees that are exclusively applicable to nonresident students. As used in this section, "continuously enrolled" means enrolled for at least the fall and spring semesters of an academic year, or for at

least three of the quarters in an academic year for an institution using the quarter system.

- (c) The attendance of a community college student who is exempt from paying nonresident tuition and other fees pursuant to this section may be reported by the community college district of attendance for apportionment purposes.
- SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.